

**REMARKS**

Claims 2-4 are pending herein. By the Office Action, claims 2-4 are allowed, and claims 1, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). By this Amendment, claims 1, 5 and 6 are canceled. No new matter is added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 2-4 are allowed. For the reasons set forth below, the application is in condition for allowance.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Seto in view of Hirota. Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with this rejection, in the interest of advancing prosecution claims 1, 5 and 6 are canceled herein. Accordingly, the rejection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,975

Joel S. Armstrong  
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA

Date: April 19, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--